

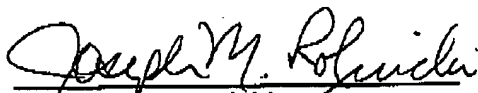
Attorney Docket No. 54084-2163

REMARKS

In the Office Action of Paper No. 12, claim 26 was rejected for the first time under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of the U.S. Patent of Varaine No. 5,118,291. Claim 26 had not been previously amended, and therefore the new grounds of rejection of claim 26 was not necessitated by amendment.

Because claim 26 was rejected for the first time in view of the Varaine reference in Paper No. 12, the rejection cannot be properly made a Final rejection. Therefore, the amendments made to the claims in the Amendment After Final Rejection filed on January 16, 2004, must be entered.

Respectfully submitted,



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